

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 393581
ORIGIN EUR-08

INFO OCT-01 SS-05 ISO-00 /014 R

66011
DRAFTED BY EUR/RPM:JHMADDEN:EB
APPROVED BY EUR/RPM:HAHOLMES
-----240724Z 115956 /20
R 232330Z DEC 76
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 293581

LIMDIS

FOL RPT STATE 293581 ACTION BONN INFO MOSCOW ALL NATO
CAPITALS 2 DEC QUOTE

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MARR, CSCE, ECE, GW

SUBJECT: FRG VIEWS ON BREZHNEV BASKET II PROPOSALS

REF: BONN 19720

1. WE FULLY SUPPORT YOUR REPLY TO LAUTENSCHLAGER'S QUERY
AS TO OUR VIEW OF THE BREZHNEV BASKET II PROPOSALS, AS
REPORTED REFTEL.
2. AS INDICATED IN STATE 276093, WE HAVE FOR SOME TIME
BEEN CONCERNED THAT SOME ELEMENTS OF FRG GOVERNMENT WERE
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INTERESTED IN RESPONDING POSITIVELY TO BREZHNEV PROPOSALS,
POSSIBLY BY EVENTUAL ACCEPTANCE OF AT LEAST ONE OF THE
PROPOSED CONFERENCES, OR A MORE MODEST VERSION THEREOF.

3. WE CONCUR WITH LAUTENSCHLAGER'S VIEW THAT SOVIET PRO-
POSALS CONTAIN VERY LITTLE SUBSTANCE AND THAT WESTERN

COUNTRIES APPEAR TO HAVE LITTLE TO GAIN BY ACCEPTING ANY
OF THE SUGGESTED CONFERENCES.

4. WE WILL, OF COURSE, STUDY ANY FURTHER INFORMATION
WHICH THE SOVIETS PROVIDE ON THE SPECIFIC AGENDA AND
OBJECTIVES WHICH THEY FORESEE FOR THE PROPOSED CONFERENCES,
BUT CONTINUE TO BELIEVE THAT WESTERN GOVERNMENTS SHOULD

KEEP THE SOVIETS IN THE POSITION OF DEMANDEUR.

5. EMBASSY BONN MAY WISH TO MAKE THESE POINTS AS APPRO-
PRIATE IN FURTHER DISCUSSIONS OF PROPOSED CONFERENCES
WITH FOREIGN OFFICE OFFICIALS.

6. USNATO AND POSTS IN NATO CAPITALS MAY DRAW ON PARAS 3
AND 4 ABOVE, AS APPROPRIATE, IN DISCUSSIONS OF BREZHNEV
PROPOSAL FOR BASKET II CONFERENCES.

ROBINSON
UNQUOTE ROBINSON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, COLLECTIVE SECURITY AGREEMENTS, BASKET II
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 DEC 1976
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ElyME
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE393581
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JHMADDEN:EB
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760472-0191
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761215/aaaaamxz.tel
Line Count: 81
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: 77 BONN 19720
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ElyME
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 06 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <06 APR 2004 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <06 AUG 2004 by ElyME>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FRG VIEWS ON BREZHNEV BASKET II PROPOSALS
TAGS: PFOR, MARR, GE, US, CSCE, ECE, (BREZHNEV, LENOID I)
To: EC BRUSSELS
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006